WEEKLY MONITOR.

VOL. I. No. 25.

TO PLAN THE LABORS OF DOMESTIC EASE.....BENEATH THE SACRED SHADE OF GENTLE PEACE.
PLEDG'D TO NO PARTY'S ARBITRARY SWAY.....I FOLLOW TRUTH WHERE E'ER IT LEADS THE WAY.

PHILADELPHIA, SEVENTH-DAY, TWELFTH MONTH 1, 1804.

TO THE PATRONS OF THE WEEKLY MONITOR.

THE patrons of the WEEKLY MONITOR are informed, that at the expiration of the present quarter, the propriety of the Paper passes to the printer. After which time some considerable changes will take place, in the plan of it; which, it is hoped, the present subscribers will have no reason to disapprove. The paper will assume another name, and be published according to the following prospectus:

PROPOSALS

For Publishing a Weekly Paper,

TO BE CALLED

THE EVENING FIRE-SIDE,

OR,

WEEKLY INTELLIGENCE

IN THE

Civil, Natural, Moral, Literary and Religious Worlds.—Calculated particularly for the perusal of the Young, and those of Retired habits of Life. Published independently of any interested Party attachment, and with special reference to the Principles of Truth and Purity.

WHEN the toils of the day have been gone through, and the hours of honest industry spun out, it is pleasing to sit down and contemplate the comforts that result, with the blessing of Divine Providence, from the labor of our hands; and in this attitude it may well be doubted, whether the king on his throne is happier than the contented cottager by his *evening fire-side*. The blazing hearth cheers his little mansion, and in the midst of his domestic enjoyments, his heart, spontaneously as it were, expands with thankfulness to Heaven, and with benevolence to the whole family of men; and with these pure sources of joy, he, if wise, is by principle, as well as by inclination, induced to seek for a further and better acquaintance.

THE thirst for knowledge is inherent in the human mind; and, under due restraint, may be made highly conducive to our interests and welfare. It is an appetite implanted in us for wise and important purposes, and if moderated within the bounds of discretion, may be very innocently, as well as agreeably indulged. Religion authorizes it, when it says "be ye *wise as serpents*, and harmless as doves." And again, "concerning evil, be ye simple; but *in understanding, be ye men.*" And the Saviour prayed, not that his disciples might be taken *out of* the world, but be preserved from the evil *in the world.* And abundance of similar testimony might be easily adduced, to evince that the enlargement of the mind, and cultivation of the understanding, though not absolutely the same, maintained nevertheless, an intimate connexion with the virtues of the heart; and that they were to be recommended accordingly to all such as would aspire, in any degree, to the possession of *wisdom*; a portion of which is absolutely necessary to our safe progress through life, as well as to fit us for finally relinquishing it here.

IF any thing further were necessary to convince us that the acquisition of useful knowledge, and a moderate acquaintance with the world, were proper for every person whose situation and leisure would comport with the pursuit: it would be that men of understanding have been generally sought for, by princes of the most unbounded power, and treated at once with great respect, and loaded with rich remunerations. Even some knowledge of the world seems necessary to them that would despise it; that is, its corruptions and spirit. The era has elapsed, when by the pious, Ignorance was to be considered as the mother of Devotion, and men have confided more in bringing both actions and things *to the light*, in order to judge of them, than formerly was either fashionable or well practicable, in the dark night of the middle ages. We have been in the habit of considering a human mind left to the dominion of rude prejudices, and its native ignorance, as a wild but luxuriant garden, where sturdy weeds and noxious plants usurp the place of both the salubrious vegetable and the ornamental flower. To labor, therefore, as they may be enabled, in the eradication of these obstructing weeds, as well as more directly to promote the growth of whatever may really be worth cultivation, is the arduous task which the Editors have contemplated in the conducting of the periodical work before them; the success whereof depends upon what shall follow, and which must therefore be left to speak, in the main, for itself.

IT may be proper, however, to say, that though the political aspect of our country, and of the civilized world in general, is not to be altogether overlooked, yet that it forms no part of the plan of this projected paper, to enter minutely into political, or personal controversies; nor does it aim to sup-

port any set of men or principles, independently of what decidly appears to be the voice of truth. The proposers of this publication are themselves men of retired habits of life, and for such, and for the young, who may not have the leisure or inclination to enter into the spirit of the political disputes of the day, have they formed their plan of periodical communication. And such is the advantage of the *still small voice* of candor and moderation, that they conceive from the complexion of their remarks no party of men may have cause to deviate from the rules and feelings of good humour and respect. When men who are attached to their respective systems have *agreed to differ*, they are in the road to conciliation and mutual good offices, and may one day unite in the same way of thinking; but if so desirable an object as *this* shall never be attained, surely it is to be lamented that party rancour should be left to destroy the hope of so much harmony between fellow-men who are formed to be a mutual help and comfort, through the difficult passages of life.—The minute detail of battles and atrocities will be generally declined; as, however interesting such things may be to some minds, they are conceived to be inconsistent with the habits of a peaceful people, such as we profess to be, and to have more or less of a hardening effect. For it argues little feeling in a populace, that can take delight in public executions and the daily exhibitions of cruelties.

The principal topics are expected to be *science*, *morals*, and *sentiment*; with an industrious collation of facts, as they daily turn up to the eye of observation. Agriculture in particular, is deemed worthy of special regard. And an attentive eye will be had to those proposed improvements of an enterprising and public nature, which may from time to time be made. And to encourage them, the Editors invite the patronage of the liberal, as well as the communications of the friendly and intelligent.

Note. A form and paging similar to the form and paging of the Monitor have been adopted, suitable to filing and binding up, for preservation and re-perusal; and that a ready recurrence may be had to the more important matters of the volume, an *index* of the subjects at large, on an extra sheet, will be added at the expiration of the year.

THE CONDITIONS ARE,

1....The type and paper the same as this Number of the Monitor exhibits.
2....Payments quarterly, at the rate of *three dollars* per annum.
3....No advertisements.

ESSAYS.

THE PASSENGER.—No. IX.

The Doctor continued his remarks, by observing, that of the five particulars he had enumerated, the first was to distinguish the worthy among the indigent; and this said he, would be an easy task; for I would have the records of the intelligence-office at all times open to receive the names of persons who might be recommended by two or more respectable citizens as worthy the attention of the society.

The second article was to reduce their necessities; this would be done only by a fund, the means of raising which I will hereafter describe. With this fund tenements should be built, at as little expence as would render them convenient and comfortable for small families. These tenements should be rented to those of the deserving characters who should want them, for a sum not exceeding a certain rate per cent. on the cost, which rate should be the interest of the money, with a moderate addition for repairs:—They would hereby save a great part of the expence of house-rent, and be more comfortably accommodated; for no class of people pay so heavy rents as the poor.

My third article, which was to withdraw bad examples, would be embraced by the foregoing measure; for in these tenements, only the most deserving would be collected, and if bad examples should be exhibited by any of them, a complaint to the society would immediately cure or remove the evil.

The fourth article was to reward their goodness; this would be partially done by the foregoing measure; and to carry it to further extent, a part of the funds should annually be laid out for the purchase of fuel in the season when it could be bought most advantageously; this should be sold to the tenants as they might want it; and to others whom the books should recommend, at the original cost and charges, with a small addition for the interest of the money; hereby an important article of the necessaries of life would be provided for them on as good terms, as it could be procured by the rich. In one of the tenements I would have accommodations for making soup on an economical plan; this should be daily furnished to those of the tenements who might apply for it, at little more than the cost, which would be very inconsiderable; for this purpose a small sum must be deposited with the occupant of the tenement, who should purchase the materials, make the soup, and dispose of it, and turn the proceeds into materials for the next supply. Beer and cider should be supplied in the same manner; hereby a check would be given to the use of ardent spirits; until those fire-brands would by degrees be extinguished or reduced to a spark among the tenants. To cherish cleanliness and good order, I would have a standing committee of the society, one of whom should visit the tenements once a week, and make his report; this committee might consist of thirteen, to visit in rotation; this arrangement would require but four visits in a year, from any one of the committee. By the reports made, those who kept their apartments in neat order, would be distinguished; to these I would propose making some honorary compliment, at a stated season of the year,—say that on a new-year's-day, or on May-day, each tenant whose neatness had preferred a recommendation, should receive a set of brushes, with a complimentary card from the society; these brushes would be handed down to the next generation, with the principles by which they were obtained. Little things, when managed with address, have a powerful effect, and this effect might be produced, as an incentive to estimable qualities, in a great variety of modes.

"*Ah*," said Mrs. Short Metre, "*sluts will be sluts—what's bred in the bone will never come through the skin.*"

My object, said the Doctor, is to pre-

vent eruptions on the skin from reaching the bone.

The fifth article of my proposition was to correct the education of their youth; for this purpose I would have two rooms in the tenement, calculated for the purpose of instruction; in the first should be taught plain sewing, and the first elements of reading and spelling, when a knowledge of these exercises should be advanced to a certain degree, the second school should be open to them, where they would receive instruction in simple arithmetic, in writing and further advances in reading and spelling, which would constitute all the school exercises. The teachers in these schools should be some of the tenants, or those who were recommended in the books, provided such could be found as were sufficiently skilled for teaching; and the schools should constantly be open in the evening, eight months in the year. The first school should receive children of both sexes, the second should be open half the time for one, and half for the other, giving three evenings in the week to each. In this second school, all domestics in the city should have the privilege of receiving instruction gratis, provided their conduct had been such, as to give them the opportunity of shewing a ticket from the intelligence-office, and a permit from their employers. To the members of this school a lecture should be read at stated periods, say once a month, on the various duties of life, and the moral character necessary to be preserved for sustaining those duties with honor. These lectures should be composed and delivered by the young gentlemen of the society, by special appointment, or in rotation, excusing all who should decline.

But, why sir, said the lady, would you pitch upon the *young* gentlemen for delivering lectures on subjects which must be much better understood by their elders. That very circumstance, madam, constitutes one of my reasons, for the preference I should give to young men. We are too much indebted to the *errors* of life, for acquiring a knowledge of its duties; this proceeds from neglecting the early studies of those duties. I will now suppose a young gentleman to be deputed by the society, to read one of those lectures; he receives the information from them, a month previous to the time at which that lecture is to be read; his ambition is excited to the study, by a wish to appear respectable in his performance, for ingenuity of argument, energy of style, purity of composition, and propriety of elocution.—By the first he would be impelled to the study of duties incumbent in the various stations of life, a study much more needed than practised. By the other particulars he would improve in a knowledge of those principles to which most eminent speakers are indebted for their reputation as orators. It is a natural supposition that the connections and acquaintances of the lecturer would generally attend on these occasions, and sit as judges of his performance; this would call up his exertions, and while the youth he should address, would be receiving instruction, he would be making improvement in a science which is too much neglected.

Another reason for my preferring young men for delivering these lectures, is this: instruction in composition and elocution, is bestowed only on those who enjoy the advantage of an academic education: this is a very limitted portion of science. The knowledge of rhetoric is of too great importance to be circumscribed within bounds so contracted: youth should be more generally instructed in this requisite for legislators, particularly in a republic, where the road is open to all, for advancing to eminence. Now such an establishment as I have proposed, would be the means by whcih young gentlemen, who have not made this subject any part of their study, would discover their own deficiency; this discovery would lead them to the study, and to seek assistance; this search would ultimately lead to the introduction of lectures on rhetoric; and these lectures would undoubtedly tend to withdraw some from dissipated habits, to a pursuit useful, honorable, and elegant.

It is wise in the body politic to incorporate with their public establishments, institutions which are calculated to exercise the activity, and gratify the ambition of young men, whereby to charm them from the paths of indiscretion, into the road of virtue and honor; the measure I propose would have some influence in producing this charm, and others might be recommended, not less likely to have a similar effect: but instead of enumerating them, I will return to that class, who were the principal objects of the proposed lectures.

[*Boston Weekly Mag.*

AFFECTION.

The affection of the parent bird to its young, was never more forcibly displayed than in the following instance:—Last week an unfeeling boy purloined a throstle's nest, and exultingly bore away the prize towards this city, where he lives. The dam, who had recently quitted her young, was not ignorant of the theft, but with unceasing solicitude, pursued them step by step. The boy and his companion perceiving this, repeatedly put down the nest, which she as constantly dropped into, and maintained possession until almost grasped with the hand.

———"*O what passions then,*
What melting sentiments of kindly care,
The watchful songstress felt."

Thus they travelled on together, until the boy reached home, when he deposited the nest within the house.—The disconsolate dam watching an opportunity, sprung in at the window with as much alacrity as another bird would have rushed out! Again she claimed her progeny, and could not be driven away.

[*Liverpool paper.*

An Enquiry into the Effects of LOVE on LIFE and MANNERS.

There is something irresistibly pleasing in the conversation of a fine woman; even though her tongue be silent, the eloquence of her eyes teaches wisdom. The mind sympathises with the regularity of the object in view, and struck with external grace, vibrates into respondent harmony. In this agreeable disposition, I lately found myself in company with a friend and his niece. Our conversation turned upon love, which she seemed equally capable of defending and inspiring. We were each of different opinions upon this subject; the lady insisted that it was a natural and universal passion and produced the happiness of those who cultivated it with proper precaution.—My friend denied it to be the work of nature, but allowed it to have a real existence—and affirmed that it was of infinite service in refining society—while I to keep up the dispute, affirmed it to be merely a name, first used by the silly part of ours, therefore no way more natural than taking snuff, or chewing tobacco, or opium.

"How is it possible," cried I, "that such a passion can be natural, when our

opinions even of beauty, which inspires it, are entirely the result of fashion and caprice? The ancients who pretended to be connoisieurs in the art, have praised narrow foreheads, red hair, and eye-brows that joined each other over the nose. Such were the charms that once captivated Catullus, Ovid, and Anacreon. Ladies would at present be out of humor, if their lovers praised them for such graces; and should an antique beauty now revive, her face would certainly be put under the discipline of the tweezer, forehead-cloth, and lead comb, before she would be suffered to appear in a public company."

"But the difference between the ancients and moderns is not so great as between the different countries of the present world. A lover of Gongora, for instance, sighs for thick lips; a Chinese lover is poetical in praise of thin. In Circassia, a straight nose is thought most consistent with beauty; cross but a mountain which separates it from the Tartars, and there flat noses, tawny skins, and eyes three inches asunder, are all the fashion. In some parts of the East, a woman of beauty, probably fed up for sale, often amounts to 100 crowns; in the kingdom of Loango, ladies of the very best fashion are sold for a pig;—queens however sell better, and sometimes amount to a cow. In short, turn over to England, don't I there see a beautiful part of the sex neglected? and none now marrying, or making love, but old men and women that have saved money? Do'nt I see beauty from 15 to 21, rendered null and void to all intents and purposes—and those six precious years of womanhood, put under the statue of virginity? What! shall I call that rancid passion, love, which passes between an old bachelor of 56, and a widow lady of 49?—Never! never! What advantage has society to reap from an intercourse, where the big belly is often on the man's side? Would any persuade me that such a passion was natural, unless the human race are more fit for love as they approach the decline, and like silk-worms, become breeders just before they expired?"

"Whether love be natural or no," replied my friend gravely, "it contributes to the happiness of every society in which it is introduced. All our pleasures are short, and can only charm at intervals; love is a method of protracting our greatest pleasure; and truly that gamester, who plays the greatest stake to the best advantage, will at the end of life, rise victorious.

This was the opinion of Vanini, who affirmed, that every hour was lost which was not spent in love. His accusers were not able to comprehend his meaning, and the poor advocate for love was buried into the flames, alas! no way metaphorical. But whatever advantage the individual may reap from this passion, society will certainly be refined and improved by its introduction; all laws calculated to discourage it, tend to imbrute the species, and weaken the state. Though it cannot plant morals in the human breast, it cultivates them when there; pity, generosity, and honor, receive a brighter polish from its assistance; and a single amour is sufficient entirely to brush off the clown.

"But it is an exotic of the most delicate constitution; it requires the greatest art to introduce it into a state, and the smallest discouragement is sufficient to repress it again. Let us only consider with what ease it was formerly extinguished in Rome, and with what difficulty it was lately revived in Europe; it seemed to sleep for ages, and at last fought its way among us, through tilts, tournaments, dragons, and all the dreams of chivalry. The rest of the world are, and have ever been, utter strangers to its delights and advantages. In other countries, as men find themselves stronger than women, they lay a claim to superiority; this is natural, and love which gives up this natural advantage, must certainly be the effect of art. An art, calculated to lengthen out our happier moments, and add new graces and comforts to society."

"I entirely acquiesce in your sentiments," says the lady, "with regard to the advantages of this passion, but cannot avoid giving it a nobler origin than you have been pleased to assign. I must think, that those countries where it is rejected, are obliged to have recourse to art to stifle so natural a projection, and those nations where it is cultivated, only make nearer advances to nature. The same efforts that are used in some places to suppress pity and other natural passions, may have been employed to extinguish love. No nation, however unpolished, is remarkable for innocence, that has not been famous for passion;—it has flourished in the coldest, as well as the warmest regions. Even in the sultry wilds of South-America, the lover is not satisfied with possessing his mistress's person, without having her mind:

In all my Enna's beauties blest,
Amidst profusion still to pine,
For though she gives me up her breast,
Its panting tenant is not mine.

"But the effects of love are too violent to be the result of an artful passion.—Nor is it in the power of fashion, to force the constitution into these changes, which we every day observe. Several have died of it. Few lovers are unacquainted with the fate of the Italian lovers, De Corsin and Julia Bellamo, who, after a long separation, expired with pleasure in each other's arms. Such instances are too strong confirmations of the reality of passion, and serve to shew that suppressing it, is but opposing the natural dictates of the heart."

TEMPER.

It is particularly necessary for girls to acquire command of temper in arguing, because much of the effect of their powers of reasoning, and of their wit, will depend upon the gentleness and good humor with which they conduct themselves.

A woman, who should attempt to thunder like Demosthenes, would not find her eloquence increase her domestic happiness, We by no means wish that women should shield their better judgment to their fathers or husbands; but, without using any of that debasing cunning which Rousseau recommends, they may support the cause of reason with all the graces of female gentleness.

A man, in a furious passion, is terrible to his enemies; but a woman in a passion, is disgusting to her friends;—she has not masculine strength and courage to enforce any other species of respect. These circumstances should be considered by writers who advise that no differences should be made in the education of the two sexes. We cannot help thinking and believing that their happiness is of more consequence than their speculative rights, and we wish to educate women so that they may be happy in the situations in which they are most likely to be placed. So much depends upon the temper of women, that it ought to be most carefully cultivated in early life; girls should be more inured to restraint than boys; because they are likely to meet with more restraint in society. Girls should learn the habits of bearing slight reproofs, without thinking them

matters of great consequence; but then they should always be permitted to state their arguments, and they should perceive that justice is shewn to them;—and that they increase the affection and esteem of their friends, by command of temper. Many passionate men are extremely good natured, and make amends for extravagancies by their candor, and their eagerness to please those whom they have injured during their fits of anger.

It is said, that the servants of Dean Swift used to throw themselves in his way whenever he was in a passion, because they knew that his generosity would recompense them for standing the full fire of his anger. A woman who permitted herself to treat her servants with ill humor, and who believed that she could pay them for ill usage, would make a bad mistress of a family; her husband and her children would suffer from her ill temper, without being recompensed for their misery. We should not let girls imagine that they can balance ill humor by some good quality or accomplishments; because in fact there are none which can supply the beauty of good temper in the female sex.

A just idea of the nature of dignity opposed to what is commonly called spirit, should be given early to female pupils. Many women who are not disposed to violence of temper, affect a certain degree of petulence, and a certain stubbornness of opinion, merely because they imagine, that to be gentle, is to be mean; and that to listen to reason, is to be deficient in spirit.

MISCELLANY.

THE HISTORY OF BEAU BRONZE,

The Fortune-Hunter.

This genteman, at the time of the adventures I am going to relate, was, according to his own reckoning, very near 30; but the register of the parish where he was born, placed him in his 42d. He had originally aoout 200l. a year, which by that time he was 25 years of age, was mortgaged to two different persons for 3000l. Coming very early to the management of his own affairs, he immediately quitted the University, for London; where, having in a very short time, run through all the vices of the town, a few years heired him to a broken estate, and a broken constitution. Having while a youth, lost a great part of his fortune at play, like a bubble, he was now reduced to the picking up a precarious subsistence by it, as a sharper; which proving but a very indifferent employment, he came to a resolution of making his circumstances easy, by marrying a fortune; nor indeed was he wholly unqualified for this undertaking, being possessed of certain qualifications which render a man agreeable to too many of the fair sex; I mean a pert address, a flow of words, and a most consummate assurance.

Among the many ladies to whom Bronze paid his addresses, was Ethelinda, an innocent creature of about sixteen, who possessed in ready money, a fortune of about 11000l. and who had besides great expectations. Having lived all her time with an old maiden aunt in the country, she was on her coming to London, transported with the diversions of the town; yet having a sufficient share of wit, joined to a very good understanding, she took care to preserve both her virtue and her reputation unspotted. With this lady the beau succeeded in his addresses; she considered his person, as it really was, far from disagreeable;—she flattered herself that she should be carried in the finest equippages to the finest places; she imagined also, from his admirable talent of dissimulation, that he was violently in love with her.—As to estate, she could have no doubt, as he never visited her but in his chariot, with a couple of footmen in elegant liveries; for his creditors in hopes of being paid, if the marriage succeeded, had taken care to furnish him with every thing necessary to keep up the appearance of a fortune.

Thus all things went on with the most promising face, till Carlos, a distant relation of Ethelinda's, left the university to settle in London. This gentleman was about 23, had good sense, much learning, and the most polite behaviour. Notwithstanding he was well acquainted with his cousin's pre-engagement; yet he found it impossible for him to see her, without falling passionately in love with her. Carlos, in a few days, from a sharper of Bronze's acquaintance, arrived at a thorough knowledge both of the beau's character and circumstances; of which he took care that Ethelinda should be privately acquainted.

Ethelinda was so far from giving the least credit to this account, that she never so much as mentioned it to Bronze himself, or suffered the least enquiry to be made about it. Carlos perceiving the ill success of his project, grew so much chagrined, that hearing the time of their marriage was fixed, he went out of town to the seat of a rich aunt, from whom he had great expectations; as being unwilling to be a spectator of what he imagined would complete her ruin and his own unhappiness.

The melancholy which hung about him in this retirement, was soon taken notice of by the old lady, and she soon guessed the cause. Her nephew readily confessed the truth, and having told her the story, "Alas, Carlos, (replied she) have you so little resolution and contrivance as to quit your mistress so easily? take courage, man; though you have been unsuccessful in your endeavors to make Ethelinda forsake her lover, take my word for it, I'll find a method to make him abandon the lady: you know my old nurse; she is but a few years older than me; I'll send her up to town to-morrow, to my old lodgings, and afterwards leave you to complete a scheme with which I shall acquaint you." Carlos, revived at the thought of gaining his Ethelinda, immediately set to work.

The nurse, properly equipped and instructed, was sent up to town, and taking her lady's name, passed for a widow of 40,000l, fortune, Carlos, by the means of the sharper from whom he had Bronze's character, caused the Beau to be informed, that a widow lady, upwards of 70, and immensely rich, was fallen desperately in love with him. Bronze's natural vanity made him the more easily caught; he pretended to Ethelinda, that a relation dying suddenly in the country, had left him his heir, which obliged him to go out of town for three or four days, to take the necessary care of what effects he had left behind. The time of his absence was employed in paying his addresses to the widow; and as things were so contrived that he might meet with no more difficulty than was absolutely necessary to hinder suspicion, the marriage was celebrated the third day; the evening before which he wrote the following letter to Ethelinda:

DEAR MADAM,

To prevent the surprise of my sudden marriage making too great impression on your spirits, I thought proper to be the first who should acquaint you with it.

Before this reaches your hands, I shall be the husband of the widow Thrifty, who is upwards of seventy years old, and a

forty thousand pounds fortune; which is enough to convince you that love has no hand in the match. I hope you have more good sense than to regard forms and ceremonies.

You may be sure of my staying no longer with the old hag, than is absolutely necessary to get possession of her money; I will then pack old Forehead-Cloth *directly to a farmer's in the country, where she may live comfortably for forty pound a year, while you and I, my dear friend, spend thousands in splendor.*

I am yours faithfully,
E. Bronze.

Carlos came very seasonably to see Ethelinda just as she had received this letter, and by letting her into the secret, inspired her with joy at the reflection on the danger she had escaped, and made her entertain very favorable thoughts of Carlos, whom she now considered as her deliver. Bronze too, was the next day undeceived by his wife's elopement, having first secured upwards of 400l. worth of jewels, which he had given her the night before marriage, and which his creditors had furnished him with, in order to his presenting them to Ethelinda. This immediately obliged the Beau to quit the kingdom, and with what money he could scrape together, to repair to Cambray; where the congress was sitting at that time, which occasioned high play, from whence he soon might find an opportunity to mend his fortune.

Carlos and Ethelinda went to pass the remainder of the summer with the old aunt in the country, where, in about two months afterwards, their marriage was consummated, and they have ever since lived in perfect harmony.

DROLL STORY OF A FISHERMAN.

The Marquis Della Scalas, in Italy, once invited the neighboring gentry to a grand entertainment, and all the delicacies of the season were accordingly provided. Some of the company had already arrived, in order to pay their very early respects to his excellency; when the major-demo, all in a hurry, came into the dining room, "My Lord," said he, "here is a most wonderful fisherman below, who has brought one of the finest fish I believe in all Italy; but then he demands such a price for it!" "Regard not his price, (cried the marquis) pay it him down directly." "So I would, please your highness, but he refused to take money." "Why, what would the fellow have?" "A hundred strokes of the strapado on the bare shoulders, my lord, he says he will not bate of a single blow." Here they all ran down to have a view of this rarity of a fisherman.—"A fine fish, (cried the marquis) what is your demand, my friend? you shall be paid on the instant." "Not a quatrini, my lord; I will not take money! if you'd have my fish, you must order me a hundred lashes of the strapado upon my naked back; if not, I shall go and apply elsewhere." "Rather than lose your fish, said his highness, let the fellow have his humor.—Here! (he cried to one of his grooms,) discharge this honest man's demand; but don't lay on very hard; don't hurt the poor fellow much." The fisherman then stripped, and the groom prepared to put his lord's orders in execution. "Now my friend," cried the fishmonger "keep good account, I beseech you, for I am not covetous of a single stroke beyond my due." They all stood suspended in amaze while this operation was carrying on. At length, on the instant that the executioner had given the fiftieth lash, "Hold! (cried the fiherman) I have already received my full share of the price." "Your share! (questioned the marquis) what can you mean by that?" "Why, my lord, you must know I have a partner in this business; my honor is engaged to let him have the half of whatever I shall get; and I fancy that your highness will acknowledge by and by, that it would be a thousand pities to defraud him of a single stroke." "And pray my friend, who is this same partner of yours?" "It is the porter, my lord, who guards the outgate of your highness's palace: he refused to admit me, but on the condition of promising him the half of what I should get for the fish." "Oh! oh! (exclaimed the marquis, breaking out into a laugh) by the blessing of heaven he shall have his demand doubled him in full tale."—Here the porter was sent for, and stripped to the skin; when two grooms laid upon him with might and main. The marquis then ordered his major-demo to pay the fisherman twenty sequins, and desired him to call yearly for the like sum, in recompence for the friendly office he had rendered him.

From the Boston Weekly Magazine.

THOUHTS ON CURIOSITY.

Of all the propensities of the human heart, perhaps there is no one which has so extensive an influence over it, as curiosity, or a desire to know all the particular and domestic circumstances of those with whom we are in the habits of intimacy.

It is a disposition not confined to any one rank, or class of mankind, but governs in a degree through the whole; it does not, it is true, show itself in so glaring a manner in some, as in others, but it will be found in a greater or less degree to prevail in all; as in the occasion of frequently bringing those who encourage and practise it, into difficulties which they by no means anticipated. When carried to excess, it stamps our character with a stigma which is not easily defaced, and will make those who feel its effects, shun us as pests to society;—it is a sure and certain way to make ourselves enemies, and prevent us from increasing the number of our friends. How contemptible an opinion do we form of a man, who, neglecting his own concerns, is continually endeavoring to discover and expose the foibles and family secrets of those, whose unsuspecting dispositions have given him an opportunity of knowing them;—such a character ought to have a mark in his forehead designating his character, that he may be universally known and avoided.

This fondness for knowing more than concerns us, obtains, in many instances, full possession of the hearts of our female friends; it is more generally encouraged, and more frequently acted out by them, than by the other sex;—they will go almost any lengths to discover the frailties of their own sex, and when the desired information is obtained, no pains will be spared to make it public:—character is sacrificed without hesitation, frequently where the person is innocent, and thus the gratification of an innocent curiosity, as it is called, ends in loss of character to the object who first excited it!

On what trifling circumstances do we allow our curiosity to be raised? only let a female see a gentleman and lady frequently together, and she is immediately on the rack to discover, if there is not some interesting connection to take place; any person who may be acquainted with them, and from whom she thinks there may be the smallest chance of obtaining information, if attacked with, "Do you know such a couple? don't you think he is courting her? I would give the world to know, you do'nt know how it would gratify me—I declare, I'm

determined to find out by some means or other—now, do tell me, if you know? I never will tell who informed me."—These questions repeated to every one who is likely to give them any information, and when it is obtained, they discover as much pleasure as if it was the most fortunate occurrence of their lives.

To avoid the disgrace attached to the character above described, it will be only necessary to pay a close attention to our own necessary concerns, and not interfere with those of our neighbors.

X.

BIOGRAPHICAL ACCOUNT OF

DONNA MARIA GAETANA AGNESI,

Professor of Mathematics and Philosophy in the University of Bologna;

Author of the celebrated Work, entitled, "INSTITUZIONI ANVLYTICHE, (ANALYTICAL INSTITUTIONS."

We give this article as a refutation of the arguments of those who maintain, that great talents are exclusively bestowed on men: and who alledge, that women have in no instance, given proofs of original and inventive powers, of a capacity for patient research, or profound investigation. Let those, says our author, who hold these opinions, endeavor to follow the writer through the long series of demonstrations, which she has contrived with so much skill, and explained with so much elegance and perspicuity; if they are *able* to do so, and to compare her work with others of the same kind, they will probably retract their former opinions, and acknowledge that, in one instance at least, intellectual powers of the highest order have been lodged in the breast of a woman. And if they *are not* able, they will not, of course, see the reasons for admiring her genius that others do, but they may learn to think modestly of their own.

A great and excellent mathematician of her own country, has declared her Analytical Institutions to be a most elegant and ingenious work, and undoubtedly the noblest of the kind that ever proceeded from a female pen. It was published in 1748, and has lately been translated into English.

It is a matter of great regret, that of the history of so extraordinary a person, but few particulars are to be obtained:—the principal, and of undoubted authenticity, are contained in the following extract from the President de Brosse's Letters from Italy, which call to mind the marvellous stories that are told of the *Admirable* CREIGHTON, well known to every reader of that agreeable collection the Pleasing Instructor.

De Brosses, in passing through Milan (about the year 1740) was carried to a *converzatione*, on purpose to meet Signora Anguesi, whom he describes as a young lady about 18 or 20, who, though she could hardly be called handsome, had a fine complexion, with an air of great simplicity, softness, and female delicacy.

"There were," says he, "about 30 people in the room, many of them from different countries in Europe, who formed a circle round the lady, and a little sister who accompanied her. The Count Belloni addressed her in a fine Latin speech, with the formality of a college declamation. She answered with great readiness and ability in the same language; and they entered into a disputation (still in Latin) on the origin of fountains, and on the causes of the ebbing and flowing which is observed in some of them, like the sea. She spoke on this subject like an angel, and I never heard it treated in a manner that gave me more satisfaction.

"The Count then desired me to enter with her on the discussion of any other subject I chose, provided it was connected with mathematics or natural philosophy. After making the best apology I could to the lady for the want of sufficient skill in the Latin language, to make me worthy of conversing in it with her, we entered, first on the manner in which the impressions made on the senses by corporeal objects are communicated to the brain, or general sensorium; and afterwards on the propagation of light, and the prismatic colors. Another of the company then discoursed with her on the transparancies of bodies, and on curvillinier figures in geometry, of which last I did not understand a word.

She spoke wonderfully well on all these subjects; though she could not have been prepared beforehand any more than we were. She is much attached to the philosophy of Newton; and it is marvellous to see a person of her age so conversant with abstruse subjects. Yet, however much I was surprised at the extent and depth of her knowledge, I was still more amazed to hear her speak Latin with such purity, ease, and accuracy, that I do not recollect any book in modern Latin written in so classical a style as that in which she pronounced these discourses. The conversation afterwards became general, every one speaking in the language of his country, and she answering in the same language; for her knowledge of language is prodigious. She told me that the conversation of this visit had taken so much the formal turn of an *academical disputation*, and that she very much disliked speaking on such subjects in numerous companies, where, for one that was amused, twenty were probably tired to death. I was sorry to hear that she intended to go into a convent, and take the veil; not from the want of fortune—for she is rich; but from a religious and devout turn of mind, which disposes her to shun the pleasures and vanities of the world."

After her work of the *Instituzioni Anylitiche* was published, she was made professor of mathematics and philosophy in the University of Bologna. But neither the admiration she every where met with, nor the entreaties of her friends, could prevent her from executing the resolution she had taken of secluding herself from the world. After the death of her father, she retired to a convent of *Blue Nuns*, remarkable for the austerity of its rules; and ended her days in one of those retreats in which mistaken piety has so often buried the charms and accomplishments, the virtues and the talents, which might have adorned and improved society. The fate of Pascal and Agnesi will remain a melancholy proof that the most splendid abilities, and the highest attainments in literature and science, cannot always defend the mind against the inroads of superstition and fanaticism.

FOR SALE,

At No. 77, North Third Street,

AN EMBROCATION

FOR THE

RHEUMATISM.

VICKERS'S

PURGATIVE PILLS.

An Ointment which effectually cures the TETTER and the ITCH.

Also, a general assortment of genuine DRUGS and MEDICINES.

12 h mo. 1st.

PRINTED BY JOSEPH RAKESTRAW,

No. 84, *North Front-Street.*

POETRY.

The last Will and Testament of

TIMOTHY HOCUS, Esq.

TO my dear wife, my joy and life,
I freely now do give her;
My whole estate with all my plate,
Being just about to leave her.
A tub of soap, a long cart rope, a frying pan, a kettle,
An ashen pail, a thrashing flail, an iron wedge and beetle,
Two painted chairs, nine warden pears, a large old dripping platter,
The bed of hay, on which I lay, an old sauce pan for butter.
A little mug, a two quart jug, a bottle full of brandy,
A looking glass to see her face, she'll find it very handy;
A musquet true, as ever flew, a pound of shot or bullet,
A leathern sash, my callabash, my powder-horn and wallet.
An old sword blade, a garden spade, a hoe, a rake and ladder,
An earthen pan, a wooden cann, a bellows and a bladder.
A greasy hat, my old ram cat, a yard and half of linnen,
A pot of grease, a woolen fleece, in order for her spinning.
A small tooth comb, an ashen broom, a candlestick and hatchet,
A coverlid striped down with red, a bag of rags to patch it.
A ragged mat, a tub of fat, a book wrote by John Bunyan,
Another book, by Robin Hook, a skein or two of spunyarn.
An old black muff, some garden stuff, a quantity of burrage,
Some devil's weed, and burdock seed, to season well her porridge.
A chafing dish with one salt fish, if I am not mistaken,
A leg of pork, a broken fork, a half a flich of bacon.
A spinning wheel, one peck of meal, a knife without a handle,
A rusty lamp, one quart of samp, and half a tallow candle.
My pouch and pipes, two oxen's tripes, an oaken dish well carved,
My little dog, and spotted hog, with two small pigs half starved.
This is my store, I have no more, I freely now do give it,
My years are spun, my days are done, and so I think to leave it.

ELEGY,

By LORD LYTTLETON, on the DEATH of his LADY.

ADIEU to the village delights,
Which lately my fancy employ'd;
No longer the country invites,
To me all its pleasures are void.

Adieu thou sweet hearth-breathing hill,
Thou canst not my comfort restore;
Forever adieu my dear ville;—
My Lucy, alas! is no more!—

She, she was the cure of my pain,
My blessing, my honor, my pride;
She ne'er gave me cause to complain,
'Till that fatal day when she dy'd.

Those eyes that so beautiful shone,
Are closed forever in sleep;
And mine, (since my lucy is gone)
Have nothing to do but to weep.

Could my tears the bright angel restore,
Like a fountain, they never should cease;
But—Lucy, alas! is no more!
And I am a stranger to peace.

Let me copy with fervour devout,
The virtues that glow'd in her heart;
Then soon (when life's sand is run out)
We shall meet again;—never to part!

[Whatever may be thought of the poetry of the following Horatian ode, no one will deny that the sentiments are those of a gentleman and man of honor.]

EXCESS.

WHILE so various our faculties, passions, and views,
How comes it, so few can true happiness find?
'Tis because man, whate'er be the course he pursues,
Still aims to be more, than what nature design'd.
'Tis because with contempt moderation we see,
To be wise, happy, great, or good, none ever tries;
But, with ceaseless exertion, all labor to be
Too great, or *too* happy, *too* good, or *too* wise.

To be man and no more, man should limit his care,
And hold the mild station 'twixt angel and brute;
Active virtue composing his every day's wear,
And harmless enjoyment his holiday suit.
But while, moderation despising, we strive,
In pleasure, or virtue, perfection to gain,
From excess to excess through life's ocean we drive,
And the harbor of happiness seldom attain.

Some, holding that man but exists to enjoy,
Bid their days, wing'd with rapture, voluptuously fly;
Others, finding that libertine pleasures soon cloy,
Reject the delight which their senses supply.
Like maniacs, *the first* wildly riot along;
Forlorn, to *the last*, seems their earthly abode:
Both fly to extremes; find, too late, they were wrong,
And have miss'd the true blessing, which chequers life's road.

The hermit with man and with nature at strife,
Shunning pleasure, and careless who sink or who swim,
Leads, alone and inactive, a dull selfish life,
Neither useful to others, nor pleasing to him.
Nor e'er by such cold flinty hearts can be prov'd,
That sunshine which cheers *his* benevolent breast,
Who, by loving his neighbor, has made himself lov'd,
And, in blessing another, can make himself blest.

The rake, from all conscience and prejudice free'd,
God and man in pursuit of enjoyment defies;
Tho' prudence may warn him, tho' virtue may plead,
Invited by pleasure, still onward he flies.
But ne'er tastes the *libertine's* lip that sweet stream,
Unsullied, which flows in life's chrystalline bowl,
When love joins with nature, with passion esteem,
And the senses scarce equal in rapture the soul.

Despis'd be the hermit, detested the rake;
The last is a villain, the first is a fool:
Not theirs be the lives which for models I take;
Not theirs be the maxims my morals to rule.
I aim not at virtues for man too sublime;
I'll pervert not my pleasures, by vicious excess;
But, while beauty and wine aid the progress of time,
May honor and sense their *encroachment* repress.

When remorse with my kisses its poison would blend,
May beauty's soft bosom ne'er rest upon mine;
When the grape proves my tyrant, no longer my friend,
O lips! may I ne'er again bathe you in wine!
But when fellow-feelings have made my heart melt,
Or my spirits are sunk by the pressure of care,
May love give me thanks, that for others I've felt,
And wine give me strength my own sorrows to bear.

Let HONOR the pleasures I covet approve;
Or never by me shall those pleasures be tried;
Let the kiss I solicit be granted by love;
Or still to my lips may that kiss be denied!
And when, for my sorrows a solace to find,
I bid in my goblet Champaigne sparkle high;
May each globe on its surface recal to my mind,
A tear, drawn by kindness from gratitude's eye.

A SKETCH OF HUMAN LIFE.

THE various seasons of the year,
As they successively appear,
Life's stages as they roll display,
And much morality convey.

In *spring* we bud, in *summer* blow,
And in the prime of manhood glow;
In *autumn* we in part decay,
And *winter* sweeps us quite away.